

**We Claim:**

1. A method of setting up a remotely controlled wireless thermostat system that includes the steps of:
  - providing a radio equipped pager for transmitting and receiving messages;
  - connecting the pager to a programmable controller of a remotely controllable thermostat system, said controller containing an algorithm for adjusting the power output of the pager;
  - transmitting a message from the pager to a local service provider network at an initial low power setting;
  - determining if the message has been successfully transmitted and if not, increasing the power output of the pager to a next high increment; and
  - retransmitting said message.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said algorithm is arranged to incrementally adjust the power output of the pager within a given power range.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein each increment some percentage of the power range.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein said power range is between 1 and 2 watts.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the power is incrementally increased from the lowest power increment until such time as a message is successfully transmitted to the network.
6. The method of claim 1 that includes the further step of preventing the power output of the pager from being further incremented once it is determined that a message has been successfully transmitted.

7. The method of claim 6 that includes the further step of locking the power setting at which a message is successfully transmitted in memory and thereafter operating the pager at the store power setting.

8. A method of setting up a remotely controlled wireless thermostat having a programmable controller for connecting the thermostat to a radio pager for transmitting and receiving messages from a local service provider network, the method including:

providing a coverage verification unit for transmitting and receiving messages from the wireless network within the power output range of the pager;  
transmitting a message from the thermostat site to a local wireless network at the lowest power output of said range;  
determining if the message has been successfully transmitted and if not, increasing the power output of the unit by an increment within said range ; and  
retransmitting the message.

9. The method of claim 8 of incrementally increasing the output power of the unit within said range until such time as a message is successfully transmitted to the network; and

programming the system controller to transmit messages to the network at the increment power output setting at which a message was first successfully transmitted to the network.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said incremental power output setting is manually programmed into the system controller and locked in memory whereby further increased in the power output are prevented.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein the message transmitted to the network by the unit demands a response back from the network.